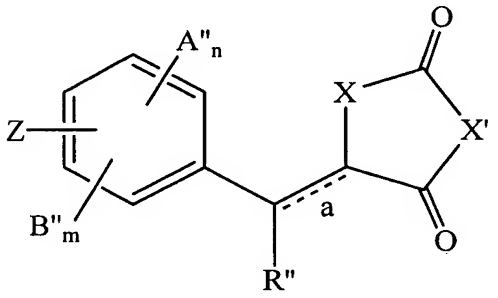
Amendments to the Claims:

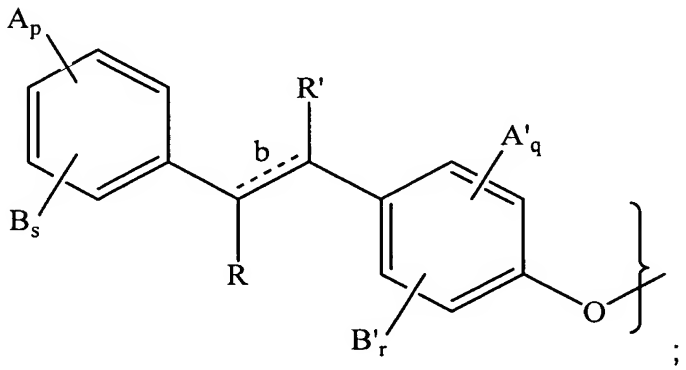
The following claims will replace all prior versions of the claims in this application (in the unlikely event that no claims follow herein, the previously pending claims will remain):

1. (Previously Presented) A compound represented by the following formula 1:



[1]

wherein Z is



;

n, m, q and r independently represent integers from zero to 4 provided that $n + m \leq 4$ and $q + r \leq 4$; p and s independently represent integers from zero to 5 provided that $p + s \leq 5$; a and b represent double bonds which may be present or absent; when present, the double bonds may be in the E or Z configuration and, when absent, the resulting stereocenters may have the R- or S- configuration;

R and R' each independently represent a hydrogen atom; linear or branched C_1-C_{20} alkyl; linear or branched C_2-C_{20} alkenyl; $-CO_2Z'$; $-CO_2R'''$; $-NH_2$; $-NHR'''$; $-NR_2'''$; -OH; $-OR'''$; $-CONR_2''''$; halogen atom; optionally substituted linear or branched C_1-C_{20} alkyl; optionally substituted linear or branched C_2-C_{20} alkenyl;

R'' independently represents a hydrogen atom; linear or branched C_1-C_{20} alkyl; linear or branched C_2-C_{20} alkenyl; $-CO_2Z'$; $-CO_2R'''$; $-NH_2$; $-NHR'''$; $-NR_2'''$; -OH; $-OR'''$; halogen atom; optionally substituted linear or branched C_1-C_{20} alkyl; optionally substituted linear or branched C_2-C_{20} alkenyl;

R''' independently represents a linear or branched C_1-C_{20} alkyl; or linear or branched C_2-C_{20} alkenyl;

R'''' independently represents a hydrogen atom; optionally substituted C_1-C_{20} alkyl; or optionally substituted C_1-C_{20} alkoxy;

Z' represents a hydrogen atom or a pharmaceutically acceptable counter-ion;

A, A' and A" each independently represent a hydrogen atom; C_1-C_{20} acylamino; C_1-C_{20} acyloxy; C_1-C_{20} alkanoyl;C_1-C_{20} alkoxycarbonyl; C_1-C_{20} alkoxy; C_1-C_{20} alkylamino; C_1-C_{20} alkylcarboxylamino; carboxyl; cyano; halo; or hydroxy;

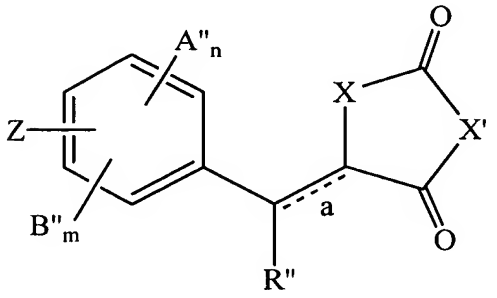
B, B' and B" each independently represent; C_2-C_{20} alkenoyl; aroyl; or aralkanoyl;

or A and B jointly, A' and B' jointly, or A" and B" jointly, independently represent a methylenedioxy or ethylenedioxy group; and

X and X' independently represent >NH, >NR''', -O-, or -S-.

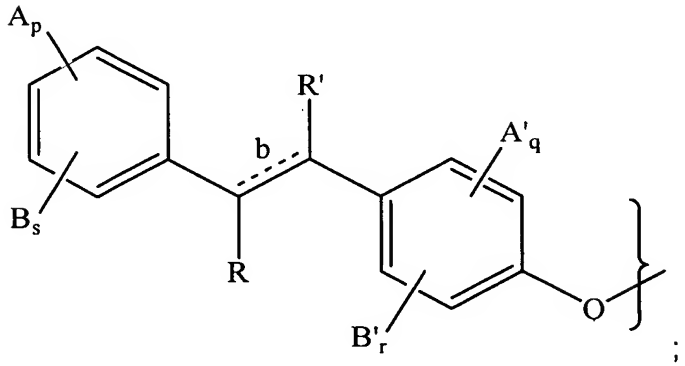
2.-3. (Cancelled)

4. (Previously Presented) A compound represented by the following formula 1:



[1]

wherein Z is



;

n, m, q and r independently represent integers from zero to 4 provided that n + m ≤ 4 and q + r ≤ 4; p and s independently represent integers from zero to 5 provided that p + s ≤ 5; a and b represent double bonds which may be present or absent; when present, the double bonds may be in the E or Z configuration and, when absent, the resulting stereocenters may have the R- or S- configuration;

R and R' each independently represent a hydrogen atom; linear or branched C_1-C_{20} alkyl; linear or branched C_2-C_{20} alkenyl; -CO_2Z'; -CO_2R'''; -NH_2; -NHR'''; -NR_2'''; -OH; -OR'''; halogen atom; optionally substituted linear or branched C_1-C_{20} alkyl; optionally substituted linear or branched C_2-C_{20} alkenyl;

R'' independently represents a hydrogen atom; linear or branched C_1-C_{20} alkyl; linear or branched C_2-C_{20} alkenyl; -CO_2Z'; -CO_2R'''; -NH_2; -NHR'''; -NR_2'''; -OH; -OR''';

halogen atom; optionally substituted linear or branched C_1-C_{20} alkyl; optionally substituted linear or branched C_2-C_{20} alkenyl;

R''' independently represents a linear or branched C_1-C_{20} alkyl; or linear or branched C_2-C_{20} alkenyl

Z' represents a hydrogen atom or a pharmaceutically acceptable counter-ion;

A, A' and A" each independently represent a hydrogen atom; C_1-C_{20} acylamino; C_1-C_{20} acyloxy; C_1-C_{20} alkanoyl;C_1-C_{20} alkoxycarbonyl; C_1-C_{20} alkoxy; C_1-C_{20} alkylamino; C_1-C_{20} alkylcarboxylamino; carboxyl; cyano; halo; or hydroxy;

B, B' and B" each independently represent; C_2-C_{20} alkenoyl; aroyl; or aralkanoyl;

or A and B jointly, A' and B' jointly, or A" and B" jointly, independently represent a methylenedioxy or ethylenedioxy group; and

X and X' independently represent >NH, >NR''', -O-, or -S-.

5.-6. (Cancelled)

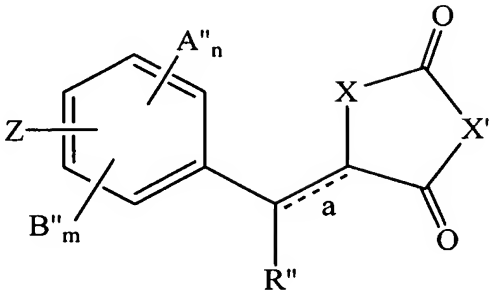
7. (Original) The compound of claim 1 that is 3-(3,5-dimethoxyphenyl)-2-{4-[4-(2,4-dioxothiazolidin-5-ylmethyl)-phenoxy]-phenyl}-acrylic acid.

8. (Withdrawn) The compound of claim 1 that is 3-(3,5-dimethoxy-phenyl)-2-{4-[4-(2,4-dioxo-thiazolidin-5-ylmethyl)-phenoxy]-phenyl}-acrylamide.

9. (Withdrawn) The compound of claim 1 that is 3-(3,5-dimethoxy-phenyl)-2-{4-[4-(2,4-dioxo-thiazolidin-5ylmethyl)-phenoxy]-phenyl}-N,N-dimethyl-acrylamide.

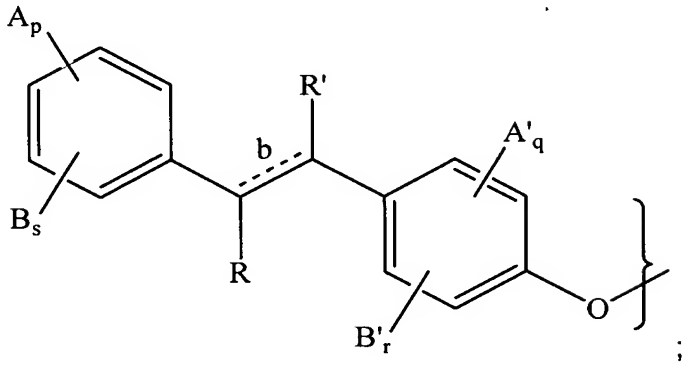
10. (Previously Presented) A pharmaceutical composition comprising:

a) a compound represented by the following formula 1:



[1]

wherein Z is



;

n, m, q and r independently represent integers from zero to 4 provided that n + m ≤ 4 and q + r ≤ 4; p and s independently represent integers from zero to 5 provided that p + s ≤ 5; a and b represent double bonds which may be present or absent; when present, the double bonds may be in the E or Z configuration and, when absent, the resulting stereocenters may have the R- or S- configuration;

R and R' each independently represent a hydrogen atom; linear or branched C_1-C_{20} alkyl; linear or branched C_2-C_{20} alkenyl; -CO_2Z'; -CO_2R'''; -NH_2; -NHR'''; -NR_2'''; -OH; -OR'''; -$CONR_2$''''; halogen atom; optionally substituted linear or branched C_1-C_{20} alkyl; optionally substituted linear or branched C_2-C_{20} alkenyl;

R'' independently represents a hydrogen atom; linear or branched C_1-C_{20} alkyl; linear or branched C_2-C_{20} alkenyl; -CO_2Z'; -CO_2R'''; -NH_2; -NHR'''; -NR_2'''; -OH; -OR'''; halogen atom; optionally substituted linear

or branched C_1-C_{20} alkyl; optionally substituted linear or branched C_2-C_{20} alkenyl;

R''' independently represents a linear or branched C_1-C_{20} alkyl; or linear or branched C_2-C_{20} alkenyl;

R'''' independently represents a hydrogen atom; optionally substituted C_1-C_{20} alkyl; or optionally substituted C_1-C_{20} alkoxy;

Z' represents a hydrogen atom or a pharmaceutically acceptable counter-ion;

A, A' and A" each independently represent a hydrogen atom; C_1-C_{20} acylamino; C_1-C_{20} acyloxy; C_1-C_{20} alkanoyl;C_1-C_{20} alkoxycarbonyl; C_1-C_{20} alkoxy; C_1-C_{20} alkylamino; C_1-C_{20} alkylcarboxylamino; carboxyl; cyano; halo; or hydroxy;

B, B' and B" each independently represent; C_2-C_{20} alkenoyl; aroyl; or aralkanoyl;

or A and B jointly, A' and B' jointly, or A" and B" jointly, independently represent a methylenedioxy or ethylenedioxy group; and

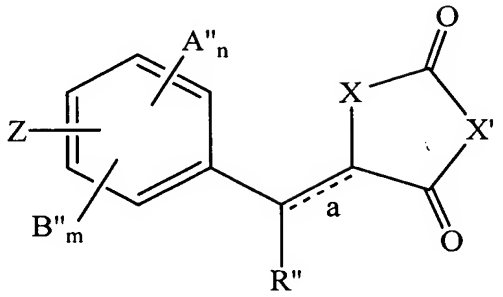
X and X' independently represent >NH, >NR''', -O-, or -S-; and

b) a physiologically acceptable carrier .

11.-12. (Cancelled)

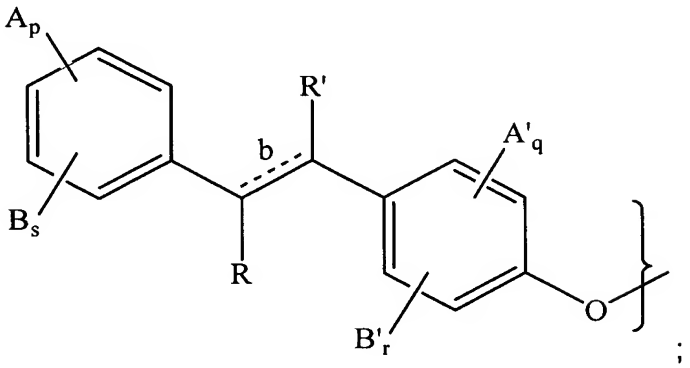
13. (Previously Presented) A pharmaceutical composition comprising:

a) a compound represented by the following formula 1:



[1]

wherein Z is



;

n, m, q and r independently represent integers from zero to 4 provided that n + m ≤ 4 and q + r ≤ 4; p and s independently represent integers from zero to 5 provided that p + s ≤ 5; a and b represent double bonds which may be present or absent; when present, the double bonds may be in the E or Z configuration and, when absent, the resulting stereocenters may have the R- or S- configuration;

R and R' each independently represent a hydrogen atom; linear or branched C_1-C_{20} alkyl; linear or branched C_2-C_{20} alkenyl; -CO_2Z'; -CO_2R'''; -NH_2; -NHR'''; -NR_2'''; -OH; -OR'''; halogen atom; optionally substituted linear or branched C_1-C_{20} alkyl; optionally substituted linear or branched C_2-C_{20} alkenyl;

R'' independently represents a hydrogen atom; linear or branched C_1-C_{20} alkyl; linear or branched C_2-C_{20} alkenyl; -CO_2Z'; -CO_2R'''; -NH_2; -NHR'''; -NR_2'''; -OH; -OR'''; halogen atom; optionally substituted linear

or branched C_1-C_{20} alkyl; optionally substituted linear or branched C_2-C_{20} alkenyl;

R''' independently represents a linear or branched C_1-C_{20} alkyl; or linear or branched C_2-C_{20} alkenyl;

Z' represents a hydrogen atom or a pharmaceutically acceptable counter-ion;

A, A' and A" each independently represent a hydrogen atom; C_1-C_{20} acylamino; C_1-C_{20} acyloxy; C_1-C_{20} alkanoyl;C_1-C_{20} alkoxycarbonyl; C_1-C_{20} alkoxy; C_1-C_{20} alkylamino; C_1-C_{20} alkylcarboxylamino; carboxyl; cyano; halo; or hydroxy;

B, B' and B" each independently represent; C_2-C_{20} alkenoyl; aroyl;

or A and B jointly, A' and B' jointly, or A" and B" jointly, independently represent a methylenedioxy or ethylenedioxy group; and

X and X' independently represent >NH, >NR''', -O-, or -S-; and

b) a physiologically acceptable carrier.

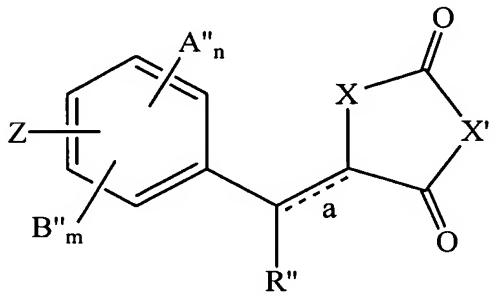
14.-15. (Cancelled)

16. (Original) The pharmaceutical composition of claim 10, wherein said compound represented by formula I is 3-(3,5-dimethoxyphenyl)-2-{4-[4-(2,4-dioxothiazolidin-5-ylmethyl)-phenoxy]-phenyl}-acrylic acid.

17. (Withdrawn) The pharmaceutical composition of claim 10, wherein said compound represented by formula I is 3-(3,5-dimethoxy-phenyl)-2-{4-[4-(2,4-dioxo-thiazolidin-5-ylmethyl)-phenoxy]-phenyl}-acrylamide.

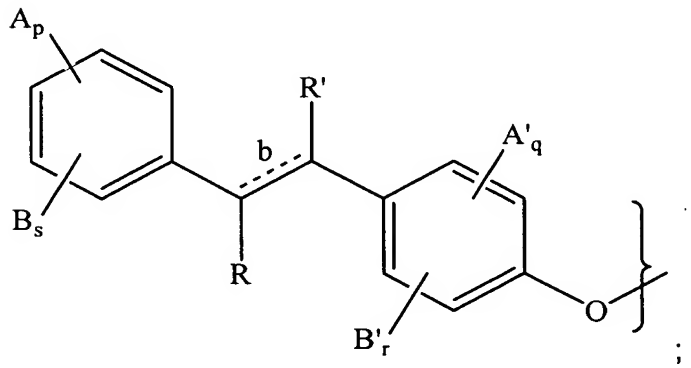
18. (Withdrawn) The pharmaceutical composition of claim 10, wherein said compound represented by formula I is 3-(3,5-dimethoxy-phenyl)-2-{4-[4-(2,4-dioxo-thiazolidin-5ylmethyl)-phenoxy]-phenyl}-N,N-dimethyl-acrylamide.

19. (Previously Presented) A compound represented by the following formula 1:



[1]

wherein Z is



;

n, m, q and r independently represent integers from zero to 4 provided that $n + m \leq 4$ and $q + r \leq 4$; p and s independently represent integers from zero to 5 provided that $p + s \leq 5$; a and b represent double bonds which may be present or absent; when present, the double bonds may be in the E or Z configuration and, when absent, the resulting stereocenters may have the R- or S- configuration;

R and R' each independently represent a hydrogen atom; linear or branched C_1-C_{20} alkyl; linear or branched C_2-C_{20} alkenyl; -CO_2Z'; -CO_2R'''; -NH_2; -NHR'''; -NR_2'''; -OH; -OR'''; -$CONR_2''''$; halogen atom; optionally substituted linear or branched C_l-C_{20} alkyl; optionally substituted linear or branched C_2-C_{20} alkenyl;

R'' independently represents a hydrogen atom; linear or branched C_1-C_{20} alkyl; linear or branched C_2-C_{20} alkenyl; -CO_2Z'; -CO_2R'''; -NH_2; -NHR'''; -NR_2'''; -OH; -OR'''; halogen atom; optionally substituted linear or branched C_1-C_{20} alkyl; optionally substituted linear or branched C_2-C_{20} alkenyl;

R''' independently represents a linear or branched C_1-C_{20} alkyl; or linear or branched C_2-C_{20} alkenyl;

R'''' independently represents a hydrogen atom; methyl; or methoxy;

Z' represents a hydrogen atom or a pharmaceutically acceptable counter-ion;

A, A' and A" each independently represent a hydrogen atom; C_1-C_{20} acylamino; C_1-C_{20} acyloxy; C_1-C_{20} alkanoyl;C_1-C_{20} alkoxycarbonyl; C_1-C_{20} alkoxy; C_1-C_{20} alkylamino; C_1-C_{20} alkylcarboxylamino; carboxyl; cyano; halo; or hydroxy;

B, B' and B" each independently represent; C_2-C_{20} alkenoyl; aroyl; or aralkanoyl;

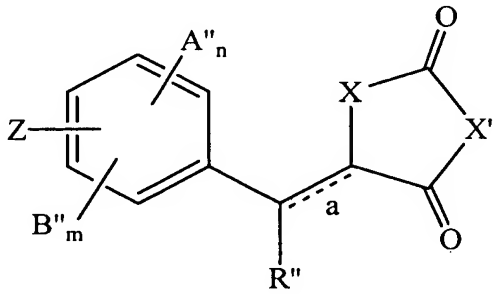
or A and B jointly, A' and B' jointly, or A" and B" jointly, independently represent a methylenedioxy or ethylenedioxy group; and

X and X' independently represent >NH, >NR''', -O-, or -S-.

20.-21. (Cancelled)

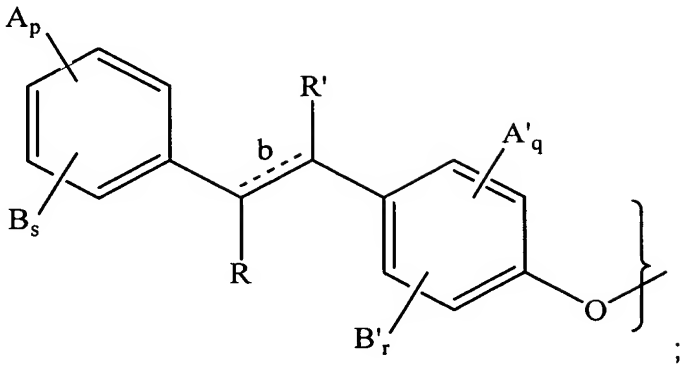
22. (Previously Presented) A pharmaceutical composition comprising:

a) a compound represented by the following formula 1:



[1]

wherein Z is



;

n, m, q and r independently represent integers from zero to 4 provided that n + m ≤ 4 and q + r ≤ 4; p and s independently represent integers from zero to 5 provided that p + s ≤ 5; a and b represent double bonds which may be present or absent; when present, the double bonds may be in the E or Z configuration and, when absent, the resulting stereocenters may have the R- or S- configuration;

R and R' each independently represent a hydrogen atom; linear or branched C_1-C_{20} alkyl; linear or branched C_2-C_{20} alkenyl; -CO_2Z'; -CO_2R'''; -NH_2; -NHR'''; -NR_2'''; -OH; -OR'''; -$CONR_2''''$; halogen atom; optionally substituted linear or branched C_1-C_{20} alkyl; optionally substituted linear or branched C_2-C_{20} alkenyl;

R'' independently represents a hydrogen atom; linear or branched C_1-C_{20} alkyl; linear or branched C_2-C_{20} alkenyl; -CO_2Z'; -CO_2R'''; -NH_2; -NHR'''; -NR_2'''; -OH; -OR'''; halogen atom; optionally substituted linear or branched C_1-C_{20} alkyl; optionally substituted linear or branched C_2-C_{20} alkenyl;

R''' independently represents a linear or branched C_1-C_{20} alkyl; or linear or branched C_2-C_{20} alkenyl;

R'''' independently represents a hydrogen atom; methyl; or methoxy;

Z' represents a hydrogen atom or a pharmaceutically acceptable counter-ion;

A, A' and A" each independently represent a hydrogen atom; C_1-C_{20} acylamino; C_1-C_{20} acyloxy; C_1-C_{20} alkanoyl;C_1-C_{20} alkoxycarbonyl; C_1-C_{20} alkoxy; C_1-C_{20} alkylamino; C_1-C_{20} alkylcarboxylamino; carboxyl; cyano; halo; or hydroxy;

B, B' and B" each independently represent; C_2-C_{20} alkenoyl; aroyl; or aralkanoyl;

or A and B jointly, A' and B' jointly, or A" and B" jointly, independently represent a methylenedioxy or ethylenedioxy group; and

X and X' independently represent >NH, >NR'", -O-, or -S-; and

b) a physiologically acceptable carrier .

23.-24. (Cancelled)